



**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
**(General - Patent Pending)**

Docket No.  
01-014

Re Application Of: **WALKER et al.**

Serial No.  
09/852,239

Filing Date  
May 9, 2001

Examiner  
Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit  
2131

Title: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS TO FACILITATE GAMES OF SKILL FOR PRIZES PLAYED VIA A COMMUNICATION NETWORK**

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Information Disclosure Statement (5 pp.);  
PTO Form-1449 (7 pp.) and references cited therein (87);  
Assertion of Small Entity Status (1 pg.); and  
Return Receipt Postcard.

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in the above identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **50-0271** as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.

  
Signature

Dated: **June 4, 2002**

**Michael D. Downs**  
Attorney for Applicants  
PTO Registration No. 50,252  
(203) 461-7292/phone  
(203) 461-7300/fax

Customer No. 22927

cc: **Mdowns@walkerdigital.com**

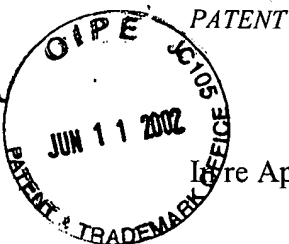
I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on **June 4, 2002** with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

**Michael D. Brinton**

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence



Application No. 09/852,239  
Attorney Docket No.: 01-014

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: WALKER et al.

Serial No.: 09/852,239

Filing Date: May 9, 2001

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS TO  
FACILITATE GAMES OF SKILL  
FOR PRIZES VIA A  
COMMUNICATION NETWORK

) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
) Group Art Unit: 2131  
) Attorney Docket No: 01-014  
) Customer No.: 22927  
) **Notification of Fee Status Change**  
) **Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.27**



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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ASSERTION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS

Dear Sir:

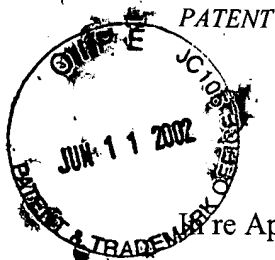
The assignee of the above-identified application no longer claims large entity status. This notification is made pursuant to 37 CFR §1.27.

If the Examiner has any questions about this status change, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (203) 461-7292. While no fees are believed due in connection with this paper, please charge any fees that may be required for this paper, or with any other papers filed in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-0271.

June 4, 2002  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Downs  
Attorney for Applicants  
PTO Registration No. 50,252  
Walker Digital, LLC  
Five High Ridge Park  
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(203) 461-7292 /direct  
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PATENT

GP 2131 #14  
Application Serial No.: 09/852,239  
Attorney Docket No.: 01-014

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of: WALKER et al.

Serial No.: 09/852,239

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For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS TO  
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) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 2131  
)  
) Attorney Docket No: 01-014  
)  
) Customer No.: 22927  
)



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as priority mail in an envelope with sufficient postage and addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 4, 2002.

Dated: 06/04/02 By: Michael D. Brinton

Michael D. Brinton

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☐ Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the pending U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
4. ☒ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:  
  
☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.  
  
☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

5. ☐ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
7. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
  - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
  - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

8. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.

☐ The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. ☐ I hereby certify:

☐ that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.

☐ that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. ☐ Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:

☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).


☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

11. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.

12. ☐ No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

June 4, 2002  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Downs  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 50,252  
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Stamford, CT 06905  
(203) 461-7292/phone  
(203) 461-7300 /fax

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>				Docket Number		Serial Number	
				01-014		09/852,239	
				Applicants			
				WALKER et al.			
				Filing Date		Group Art Unit	
				May 9, 2001		2131	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIAT E
	A	4,592,546	06/03/86	Fascenda et al.	273	1 E	
	B	4,652,998	03/24/87	Koza et al.	364	412	
	C	4,658,093	04/14/87	Hellman	380	25	
	D	4,670,857	06/02/87	Rackman	380	4	
	E	4,689,742	08/25/87	Troy et al.	364	412	
	F	4,760,527	07/26/88	Sidley	364	412	
	G	4,856,787	08/15/89	Itkis	273	237	
	H	4,982,337	01/01/91	Burr et al.	364	479	
	I	5,018,736	05/28/91	Pearson et al.	273	439	
	J	5,036,461	07/30/91	Elliott et al.	364	408	
	K	5,042,809	08/27/91	Richardson	273	138 A	

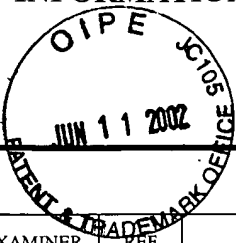
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	L	EP 0 032 410 A1	07/22/81	Europe				
	M	GB 2 121 569 A	12/21/83	United Kingdom				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED:
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> 				Docket Number 01-014		Serial Number 09/852,239	
				Applicants WALKER et al.			
				Filing Date May 9, 2001		Group Art Unit 2131	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	N	5,050,212	09/17/91	Dyson	380	25	
	O	5,073,931	12/17/91	Audebert et al.	380	23	
	P	5,083,271	01/21/92	Thacher et al.	364	411	
	Q	5,112,051	05/12/92	Darling et al.	273	148 B	
	R	5,114,155	05/19/92	Tillery et al.	273	371	
	S	5,119,295	06/02/92	Kapur	364	412	
	T	5,136,644	08/04/92	Audebert al.	380	25	
	U	5,155,680	10/13/92	Wiedemer	364	406	
	V	5,179,517	01/12/93	Sarbin et al.	364	410	
	W	5,193,114	03/09/93	Moseley	380	23	

YFOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	X	EP 0 106 187 B1	11/21/85	Europe				
	Y	WO 86/02752	05/09/86	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	Z	5,202,923	04/13/93	Kuriyama	380	50	
	AA	5,213,337	05/25/93	Sherman	273	439	
	BB	5,223,698	06/29/93	Kapur	235	375	
	CC	5,243,652	09/07/93	Teare et al.	380	21	
	DD	5,243,654	09/07/93	Hunter	380	51	
	EE	5,259,029	11/02/93	Duncan, Jr.	380	4	
	FF	5,276,312	01/04/94	McCarthy	235	380	
	GG	5,277,424	01/11/94	Wilms	273	85 CP	
	HH	5,283,734	02/01/94	Von Kohorn	364	412	
	II	5,297,205	03/22/94	Audebert et al.	380	23	
	JJ	5,319,710	06/07/94	Atalla et al.	380	23	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	KK	GB 2 167 676 A	06/04/86	United Kingdom				
	LL	JP 01258178A	10/16/89	Japan (Abstract)				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>				Docket Number 01-014		Serial Number 09/852,231	
				Applicants WALKER et al.			
				Filing Date May 9, 2001		Group Art Unit 2131	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	MM	5,324,035	06/28/94	Morris et al.	273	138 A	
	NN	5,347,580	09/13/94	Molva et al.	380	25	
	OO	5,349,642	09/20/94	Kingdon	380	25	
	PP	5,351,293	09/27/94	Michener et al.	380	21	
	QQ	5,355,413	10/11/94	Ohno	380	24	
	RR	5,359,510	10/25/94	Sabalaiuskas	364	410	
	SS	5,377,268	12/27/94	Hunter	380	23	
	TT	5,386,468	01/31/95	Akiyama et al.	380	25	
	UU	5,400,319	03/21/95	Fite et al.	369	275.5	
	VV	5,412,575	05/02/95	Constant et al.	364	464.01	
	WW	5,415,416	05/16/95	Scagnelli et al.	273	439	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	XX	JP 01269164A	10/26/89	Japan (Abstract)				
	YY	JP 01269158 A	10/26/89	Japan (Abstract)				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	ZZ	5,416,840	05/16/95	Cane et al.	380	4	
	AAA	5,434,918	07/18/95	Kung et al.	380	25	
	BBB	5,508,731	04/16/96	Kohorn	348	1	
	CCC	5,518,253	05/21/96	Pocock et al.	273	439	
	DDD	5,539,822	07/23/96	Lett	380	20	
	EEE	5,558,339	09/24/96	Perlman	463	42	
	FFF	5,593,349	01/14/97	Miguel et al.	463	30	
	GGG	5,643,086	07/01/97	Alcorn et al	463	29	
	HHH	5,759,101	06/02/98	Von Kohorn	463	40	
	III	5,768,382	06/16/98	Schneier et al.	380	23	
	JJJ	5,779,549	07/14/98	Walker et al.	463	42	
	KKK	5,794,207	08/11/98	Walker et al.	705	23	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	LLL	JP 01316869A	12/21/89	Japan (Abstract)				
	MMM	JP 02110660A	04/23/90	Japan (Abstract)				

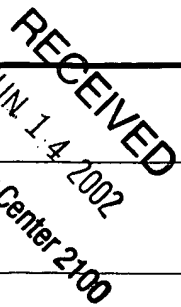
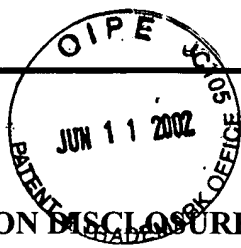
## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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	<b>Applicants</b> WALKER et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> May 9, 2001	<b>Group Art Unit</b> 2131

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	NNN	5,871,398	02/16/99	Schneier et al.	463	16	
	OOO	5,970,143	10/19/99	Schneier et al.	380	23	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	PPP	EP 0 405 776 A2	01/02/91	Europe				
	QQQ	JP 03269763	12/02/91	Japan (Abstract)				
	RRR	EP 0 478 412 A1	04/01/92	Europe				
	SSS	EP 0 487 446 A2	05/27/92	Europe				
	TTT	WO 92/16914	10/01/92	PCT				
	UUU	WO 93/19428	09/30/93	PCT				
	VVV	DE 42 22 896 A1	01/13/94	Germany				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	WWW	"Agent Speaks Directly to the Customer on the Screen", ISDN News, March 1, 1989, Vol. 2, No. 4, ISSN: 0899-9554.
	XXX	Conniff, Michael, "Don't Bet Against Harrah's When It Comes to ISDN", Electronic Service Update, May 1, 1989, Vol. 2, No. 5.

<b>EXAMINER</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED:</b>
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	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							Yes	No
	YYY	JP 6-35944	02/10/94	Japan				X
	ZZZ	FR 2 697 653-A1	05/06/94	France (Abstract)				
	AAAA	WO 94/19906	09/01/94	PCT (Abstract)				
	BBBB	WO 95/05876	03/02/95	PCT				
	CCCC	WO 96/07867	03/14/96	PCT				
	DDDD	WO 97/02074	01/23/97	PCT				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

EEEE	"Interactive Network (IN) announced Tues. that...", Communications Daily, November 30, 1994, Vol. 14, No. 230, ISSN: 0277-0679.
FFFF	"Interactive Network Sets Up Gaming Subsidiary", Interactive Facts, December 1994, Vol. 1, No. 25.
GGGG	"Interactive Network Launches Wagering Unit", Multimedia Business Report, December 2, 1994, pg. N/A, ISSN: 1065-8300.
HHHH	"Interactive Network Forms Real-Time Gambling Subsidiary", Newsbytes News Network, December 7, 1994.
IIII	Dvorak, John C., "Gambling on a PC near you", PC Magazine, May 16, 1995, Vol. 14, No. 9, pg. 89.

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED:**

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